BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 2001-187-C - ORDER NO. 2001-687

JULY 26, 2001

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the request of Sandhill Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (Sandhill or the Cooperative) for approval of amortization of an extraordinary retirement of central equipment in the amount of \$1,382,430. The Cooperative proposes to amortize this retirement over a three-year period. No rate increase to Sandhill's customers would result if the request is approved, according to Sandhill.

Sandhill notes that in 1999, it completed a major upgrade program regarding its central office equipment. This program included the deployment of SSP functionality, a change from LEAS to End Office Access, and other upgrades.

We have examined the Cooperative's request, find it appropriate, and hereby grant it as filed.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the

Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Male Must Chairman

ATTEST:

Long E. Wolfer Executive Director

(SEAL)